

Surah 53 Surah Najm

THE STAR

THE LINK BETWEEN SURAH NAJM AND SURAH TOOR

Surah Toor emphasises that the rewards and punishment of the Day of *Qiyaamah* are a certain reality and that none can avert Allaah's punishment. *Surah Najm* stresses that no intercessor can change Allaah's decision of punishment. Not Laat, not Manaaf, not Uzza, nor any of the other idols of the Quraysh can achieve this to save their devotees from punishment. Therefore, it is futile to worship and supplicate to them.

A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

Linked to the subject matter contained in the previous *Surahs*, *Surah Najm* deals with the following aspects.

- * The central theme of the *Surah* is the negation of the belief that any being can alter Allaah's decision.
- * An introduction with encouragement.
- * The first assertion i.e. do not worship idols like Laat, Manaaf and Uzza.
- * The second assertion, i.e. do not think that any intercession of the angels can alter Allaah's decree.
- * Repetition of the first assertion in verse 23.
- * Repetition of the second assertion in verses 26 to 28.
- * Consolation for Rasulullaah ﷺ.
- * Reproaches for the Mushrikeen.
- * A repetition of the central theme.

سُبْحَانَ النَّجْمِ سَيِّئَةٍ وَهِيَ تَنْتَابُ سِتْرَيْنِ أَلَيْسَ لِذِكْرِهِمْ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

وَالنَّجْمِ إِذَا هَوَىٰ ۝

1. By the star when it sets...

مَا ضَلَّ صَاحِبُكُمْ وَمَا غَوَىٰ ۝

2. Your companion (Rasulullaah ﷺ) is neither astray (misguided) nor has he lost his direction (purpose).

وَمَا يَنْطِقُ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ ۝

3. He does not speak of his own desires.

إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا وَحْيٌ يُوحَىٰ ۝

4. (Rather) Whatever he says is revelation (which Allaah has) revealed to him (through the agency of Jibra'eel عليه السلام).

عَلَّمَهُ شَدِيدُ الْقُوَىٰ ۝

5. He has been taught by one of tremendous might (Jibra'eel عليه السلام)...

دُومِ قَوْفَاسْتَوَىٰ ۝

6....and who is extremely powerful (so powerful that he used only the tip of one of his 600 wings to lift the city of Sodom). (Whereas Jibra'eel عليه السلام usually appeared before Rasulullaah ﷺ in human form) He (Jibra'eel عليه السلام) (once) appeared (before Rasulullaah ﷺ) in his original form (in Makkah)...

وَهُوَ بِالْأُفُقِ الْأَعْلَىٰ ۝

7....when he (Jibra'eel عليه السلام) was on the highest part of the horizon. (Rasulullaah ﷺ saw

Jibra'eel عليه السلام on the eastern horizon with his six hundred wings spread out. They were so large that they even covered the western horizon. The sight was so tremendous that Rasullullaah عليه السلام fell unconscious.)

ثُمَّ دَنَى فَتَدَلَّى ۝٨

8. Then (seeing Rasullullaah عليه السلام fall unconscious) **he** (Jibra'eel عليه السلام) **approached** (Rasullullaah عليه السلام to revive him) **and** (doing this, he) **drew close...**

فَكَانَ قَابَ قَوْسَيْنِ أَوْ أَدْنَى ۝٩

9....and was as close (to Rasullullaah عليه السلام) **as two bows** (with each end of a bow touching the corresponding end of the other bow) **or even closer.**

فَأَوْحَىٰ إِلَىٰ عَبْدِهِ مَا أَوْحَىٰ ۝١٠

10. Then (Allaah) **sent that revelation to His slave, which He revealed.** (This refers to the revelation of verse 6 of Surah 93 up to verse 4 of Surah 94 and the proclamation that no person shall enter Jannah until Rasullullaah عليه السلام has entered and that no Ummah shall enter Jannah before his Ummah have entered Jannah).

مَا كَذَبَ الْفُؤَادُ مَا رَأَىٰ ۝١١

11. The heart (of Rasullullaah عليه السلام) **does not mistake what it sees** (whatever Rasullullaah عليه السلام reported that he saw was the absolute truth).

أَفْتُمَرُّونَ عَلَىٰ مَا بَرَأَىٰ ۝١٢

12. Are you (Mushrikeen) **disputing with him** (Rasullullaah عليه السلام) **concerning what he saw** (when you have not seen anything like it)?

وَلَقَدْ رَآهُ نَزْلَةً أُخْرَىٰ ۝١٣

13. He (Rasullullaah عليه السلام) **certainly saw him** (Jibra'eel عليه السلام in his original form) **once more** (a second time)...

عِنْدَ سِدْرَةِ الْمُنْتَهَىٰ ۝١٤

14....at the Sidratul Muntahaa (near the lote tree when Rasullullaah عليه السلام went on the miraculous journey of Mi'raaj to the furthest Jannah)...

عِنْدَ هَاجَةِ الْمَآوَىٰ ۝١٥

15. ...close to which is Jannatul Ma'waa (a comfortable dwelling above which is Allaah's Throne).

إِذْ يَغْشَى السِّدْرَةَ مَا يَغْشَى ۝

16. (Rasulullaah ﷺ saw Jibra'eel عليه السلام before he saw) **When the Sidratul Muntahaa (which) was covered by that which covered it.** (When the Sidratul Muntahaa was covered by magnificent colours or angels, it assumed a new appearance and became more beautiful beyond description.)

مَا زَاغَ الْبَصَرُ وَمَا طَغَى ۝

17. **The sight** (of Rasulullaah ﷺ) **neither wavered** (saw any less than it was supposed to see) **nor transgressed** (did not exaggerate what it saw).

لَقَدْ رَأَى مِنْ آيَاتِ رَبِّهِ الْكُبْرَى ۝

18. **He definitely saw some of Allaah's great Aayaat** (signs on the journey of Mi'raaj).

أَفَرَأَيْتُمُ اللَّاتَ وَالْعُزَّىٰ ۝

19. **Have you seen Laat and Uzza** (the names of two idols that the Mushrikeen of Makkah worshipped)...

وَمَنَاةَ الثَّالِثَةَ الْأُخْرَىٰ ۝

20....and the third one Manaat (another idol of theirs) ?

الْكُفْرَ الذَّكَرُ وَلَهُ الْأُنثَىٰ ۝

21. **Are males** (sons reserved exclusively) **for you** (because you like having them) **and** (you attribute) **females for Him** (saying that the angels are Allaah's daughters) ?

تِلْكَ إِذْ أَوْسَمَهُ ضُبُّزَىٰ ۝

22. **This is certainly an unjust distribution.**

إِنْ هِيَ إِلَّا أَسْمَاءٌ سَمَّيْتُمُوهَا أَنْتُمْ وَآبَاؤُكُمْ مِمَّا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ بِهِمْ مِنْ سُلْطَانٍ إِنْ يَتَّبِعُونَ إِلَّا الظَّنَّ وَمَا تَهْوَى الْأَنْفُسُ وَلَقَدْ جَاءَهُمْ مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ الْهُدَىٰ ۝

23. **These (idols) are merely names which you and your forefathers have kept, for which Allaah has not revealed any permission (authority).** **They (the Mushrikeen) follow only**

assumptions (false belief in choosing their gods) **and what their** (fleeting) **desires fancy** (wish for) **whereas** (true) **guidance has already come to them from** (foolishly follow) **their Rabb.**

أَمْ لِلْإِنْسَانِ مَا تَمَنَّى ۝٢٤

24. Can man have whatever he wishes for?

فَلِلَّهِ الْآخِرَةُ وَالْأُولَىٰ ۝٢٥

25. (Man cannot have whatever he desires because) The Aakhirah and the world belong to Allaah (and He is the only One Who decides which of his wishes man should have).

وَكَم مِّن مَّلَكٍ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ لَا تُغْنِي شَفَاعَتُهُمْ شَيْئًا إِلَّا مِن بَعْدِ أَنْ يَأْذَنَ اللَّهُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَرْضَىٰ ۝٢٦

26. How many are the angels in the heavens whose intercession (pleading) **shall be of no benefit** (to anyone) **except after Allaah grants permission for whoever He wills and is pleased** (to allow their intercession).

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ لَيُسَمُّونَ الْمَلَائِكَةَ تَسْمِيَةَ الْإِنثَىٰ ۝٢٧

27. Indeed those who do not believe in the Aakhirah give feminine names to the angels...

وَمَا لَهُمْ بِهِ مِنْ عِلْمٍ إِنْ يَتَّبِعُونَ إِلَّا الظَّنَّ وَإِنَّ الظَّنَّ لَا يُغْنِي مِنَ الْحَقِّ شَيْئًا ۝٢٨

28....without (themselves) **possessing any knowledge. They follow only assumptions and assumptions are absolutely useless against the truth** (because the truth will always prevail).

فَاعْرِضْ عَنْ مَّن تَوَلَّىٰ عَنْ ذِكْرِنَا وَلَمْ يُرِدْ إِلَّا الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا ۝٢٩

29. So ignore him who turns away from Our advice and who desires only the life of this world.

ذَٰلِكَ مَبْلَغُهُم مِّنَ الْعِلْمِ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَن ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَن اهْتَدَىٰ ۝٣٠

30. This (Their objectives in this world) **is the extent of their knowledge.** (They are concerned only about this world and have no concern for the Aakhirah). (It is therefore futile to persistently preach to them for) **Verily your Rabb knows best about the person who deviated** (moved away) **from His path and He knows best about him who is rightly guided** (and He shall punish or reward them accordingly).

وَلِلَّهِ مَا فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ لَيَجْزَىٰ الَّذِينَ أَسَاءُوا مَا عَمِلُوا وَيَجْزَىٰ الَّذِينَ أَحْسَنُوا بِالْحُسْنَىٰ ۝٣١

31. To Allaah belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth so that (with this Complete Power) He may punish the evil-doers for their (evil) actions and reward those who do good with the best (of rewards, namely Jannah).

الَّذِينَ يَجْتَنِبُونَ كَبِيرَ الْإِثْمِ وَالْفَوَاحِشَ إِلَّا اللَّمَمَ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ وَاسِعُ الْمَغْفِرَةِ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِكُمْ إِذْ أَنْشَأَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ وَإِذْ أَنْتُمْ أَجِنَّةٌ فِي بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ فَلَا تُزَكُّوْا أَنْفُسَكُمْ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنِ اتَّقَى ۖ

32. (Those who do good are) Those who stay away from (avoid) major sins and indecent behaviour except for minor sins (which they sometimes get involved in because no human is free from fault). (However, they are quick to seek Allaah's forgiveness for these sins and Allaah is ready to forgive them because) Indeed your Rabb is One of infinite mercy. He was best Aware of you when He created you from the earth and when you were foetuses in the wombs of your mothers. (He knows everything about you and knows you even better than you know yourselves.) So do not ascribe purity (piety) to yourselves. He knows best who is the most pious (whose level of Taqwa is highest).

أَفَرَأَيْتَ الَّذِي تَوَلَّى

33. Have you seen the person who turns away (from Islaam)?

وَأَعْطَى قَلِيلًا وَأَكْدَى ۖ

34. Who gives a little (in charity for ulterior motives) and then stops (spending in charity when his motives are not met)?

أَعِنْدَهُ عِلْمُ الْغَيْبِ فَهَوَىٰ رَأْيَ ۖ

35. Does he have knowledge of the unseen so that he can see (that he will lose all his wealth if he spends in charity)?

أَمْ لَمْ يُنَبَّأْ بِمَا فِي صُحُفِ مُوسَىٰ ۖ

36. Has he not been informed of what appeared in the scriptures of Moosa ﷺ...

وَأِبْرَاهِيمَ الَّذِي وَفَّى ۖ

37....and in the scriptures of Ibraheem ﷺ who fulfilled (every task that Allaah entrusted to him)?

أَلَا تَذَرُهُمْ وَانْصَرَفَ ۚ

38. (That which appeared in these scriptures was) That one bearer (a person) shall not be burdened

With the burden (sins) of another. (Every person will have to suffer the consequences of his own sins without any of his punishment being given to another.)

وَأَنْ لَّيْسَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ إِلَّا مَا سَعَىٰ ﴿٣٩﴾

39. Man shall have (earn) only what (rewards or punishment that) he strives (for)...

وَأَنَّ سَعْيَهُ سَوْفَ يُرَىٰ ﴿٤٠﴾

40....and (the value of) his efforts shall soon be seen (on the Day of Qiyaamah)...

ثُمَّ يُجْزَاهُ الْجَزَاءُ الْأَوْفَىٰ ﴿٤١﴾

41....after which he will be rewarded in full (for all his actions).

وَأَنَّ إِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ الْمُنتَهَىٰ ﴿٤٢﴾

42. The end (destination of every person) shall surely be to your Rabb (Who will evaluate your actions and either reward or punish you for them).

وَأَنَّهُ هُوَ أَضْحَكَ وَأَبْكَى ﴿٤٣﴾

43. It is certainly He (Allaah) Who makes (people) laugh and cry. (Allaah creates the condition which make people happy or sad.)

وَأَنَّهُ هُوَ أَمَاتَ وَأَحْيَا ﴿٤٤﴾

44. It is only He Who gives death and life.

وَأَنَّهُ خَلَقَ الذَّكَرَ وَالْأُنثَىٰ ﴿٤٥﴾

45. Verily it is only He Who created pairs of male and female...

مِنْ نُّطْفَةٍ إِذَا تُمْنَىٰ ﴿٤٦﴾

46....from the seed (the sperm) when it issues forth.

وَأَنَّ عَلَيْهِ النَّشْأَةَ الْآخِرَىٰ ﴿٤٧﴾

47. (Just as He created everything the first time,) **The second creation** (resurrecting them on the Day of Qiyaamah) **is undoubtedly His responsibility.**

وَأَنَّهُ هُوَ أَعْيَىٰ وَأَفْنَىٰ ۖ

48. Verily He grants wealth and poverty (to people according to His complete wisdom).

وَأَنَّهُ هُوَ رَبُّ الشَّعَرَىٰ ۖ

49. He is the Rabb of Sirius. (The star Sirius is also known as the Dog Star. It is the brightest star in the sky and can be seen from almost every part of the earth.)

وَأَنَّهُ أَهْلَكَ عَادًا الْأُولَىٰ ۖ

50. He destroyed the former (ancient) Aad...

وَتَمُودَ أَفْمَا الْبَقَىٰ ۖ

51....and the Thamud (who are known by some as the later Aad) **so that none** (of them) **remained** (alive).

وَقَوْمَ نُوحٍ مِّنْ قَبْلُ أَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا هُمْ أَظْلَمَ وَأَطْغَىٰ ۖ

52. And (Allaah also destroyed) the people of Nooh before (the Aad and the Thamud), who were most tyrannical (oppressive) and rebellious (disobedient).

وَالْمُؤْتَفِكَةَ أَهْوَىٰ ۖ

53. He also overturned the capsized cities (the city of Sodom and those around her).

فَخَشَّبَهَا مَاعَشَىٰ ۖ

54. So that thing (punishment) engulfed (fell upon) them. (This refers to the shower of stones that rained on the people of Lut عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ.)

فَبَايَ الْأَثَرُ رَبِّكَ تَتَمَارَىٰ ۖ

55. (It is out of Allaah's Mercy that He reminds you of these incidents so that you do not suffer the fate of these nations.) So (instead of learning lessons from these incidents,) **which bounties** (blessings) **of your Rabb do you doubt** (because of which you do not take heed and choose rather to follow the ill-fated footsteps of the doomed nations)?

هَذَا نَذِيرٌ مِّنَ النَّذِرِ الْأُولَىٰ ﴿٥٦﴾

56. He (Rasulullaah ﷺ) is also a warner (a Nabi) from among (just like) the earlier warners (the previous Ambiyaa عليه السلام).

أَزَفَتِ الْأَمْرِفَةُ ﴿٥٧﴾

57. The swift approaching matter (Qiyaamah) has (almost) arrived (is imminent).

لَيْسَ لَهَا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ كَاشِفَةٌ ﴿٥٨﴾

58. There is none to avert it (when it arrives) besides Allaah.

أَقِمْنَ هَذَا الْحَدِيثَ تَعَجُّبُونَ ﴿٥٩﴾

59. Are you astonished (amazed) about this speech (the Qur'aan)?

وَتَضَحَكُونَ وَلَا تَبْكُونَ ﴿٦٠﴾

60. And do you laugh (at it out of ridicule) instead of crying (out of fear for the warnings it sounds)?

وَأَنْتُمْ سَمِدُونَ ﴿٦١﴾

61. And (instead of accepting its advice, do you rather) continue being arrogant (misguided)?

فَاسْجُدُوا لِلَّهِ وَاعْبُدُوا الْعَبْدَةَ ﴿٦٢﴾

62. (Instead of this, you should rather) Prostrate to Allaah and worship Him (if you are wise). (One who recites or hears this verse being recited should perform Sajdah.)

